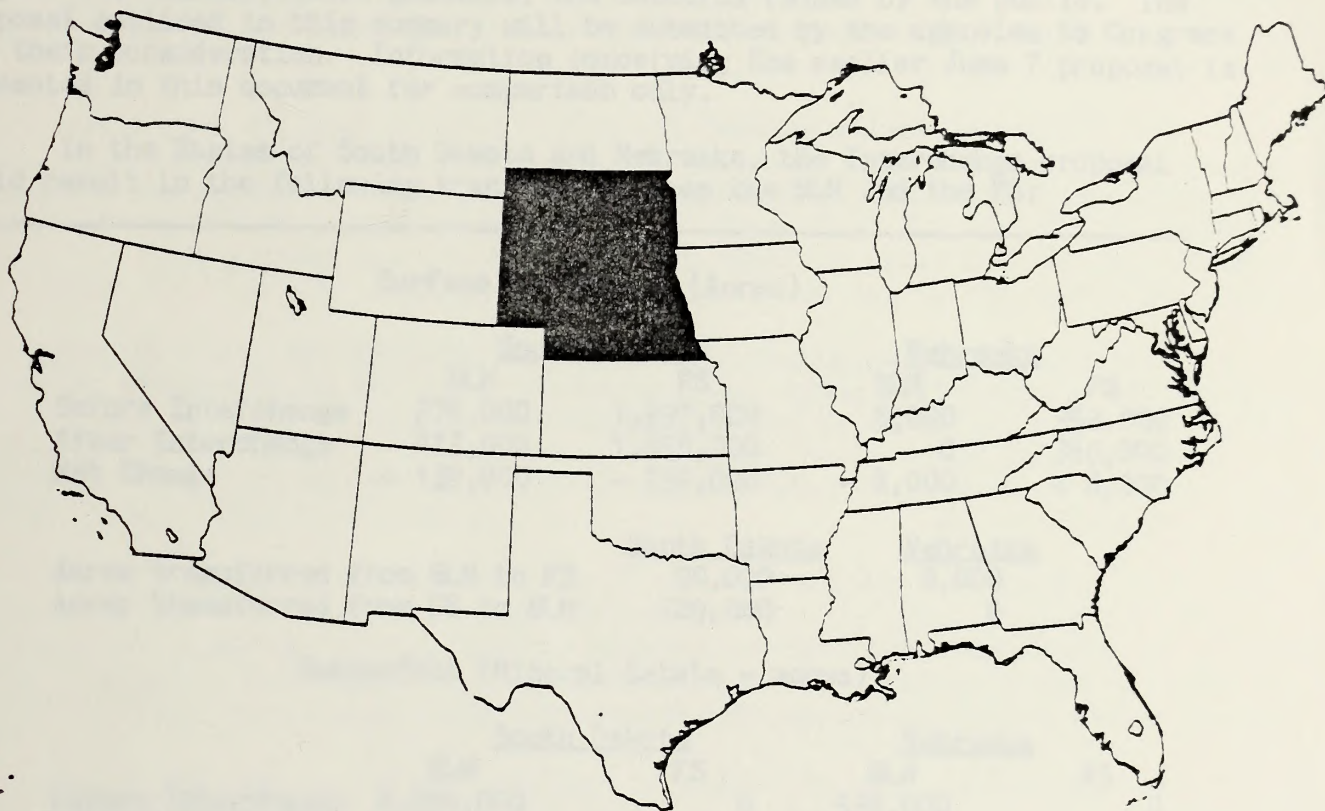




# BLM/FS INTERCHANGE

## Summary

### NEBRASKA & SOUTH DAKOTA



**PREPARED BY:**

**Rocky Mountain Region**

**Wyoming State Office**

**FOREST SERVICE**

**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**



**FEBRUARY 1986**

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INTERCHANGE IMPLEMENTATION SUMMARY  
STATES OF SOUTH DAKOTA AND NEBRASKA

## I. OVERVIEW

The following summarizes the proposed Interchange for the States of South Dakota and Nebraska. This summary includes a review of the public involvement, the proposed action, and the anticipated costs and savings. More detailed information is available for review in the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) State Office in Billings, MT, and the Forest Service (FS) Regional Offices in Missoula, MT, and Lakewood, CO.

State summaries were first published as part of the June 7 Interchange package. Since that time the agencies together have refined the original proposal to address, where possible, the concerns raised by the public. The proposal outlined in this summary will be submitted by the agencies to Congress for their consideration. Information concerning the earlier June 7 proposal is presented in this document for comparison only.

In the States of South Dakota and Nebraska, the Interchange proposal would result in the following transfers between the BLM and the FS:

## Surface Management (Acres)

|                    | <u>South Dakota</u> |           | <u>Nebraska</u> |         |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------------|---------|
|                    | BLM                 | FS        | BLM             | FS      |
| Before Interchange | 274,000             | 1,997,000 | 8,000           | 352,000 |
| After Interchange  | 413,000             | 1,858,000 | 0               | 360,000 |
| Net Change         | + 139,000           | - 139,000 | - 8,000         | + 8,000 |

|                                  | <u>South Dakota</u> | <u>Nebraska</u> |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Acres transferred from BLM to FS | 90,000              | 8,000           |
| Acres transferred from FS to BLM | 229,000             | 0               |

## Subsurface (Mineral Estate - acres)

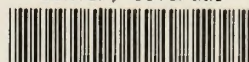
|                    | <u>South Dakota</u> |           | <u>Nebraska</u> |         |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------------|---------|
|                    | BLM                 | FS        | BLM             | FS      |
| Before Interchange | 4,854,000           | 0         | 528,000         | 0       |
| After Interchange  | 1,663,000           | 3,191,000 | 0               | 528,000 |

The surface acres that would be transferred from BLM to the FS in both South Dakota and Nebraska consist primarily of small, widely scattered parcels. An exception is Fort Meade, at the north end of the Black Hills National Forest, which is 6,693 acres in size.

Based on the proposed Interchange boundary, the public lands administered by the BLM and the National Forest System lands in the northwestern quadrant of South Dakota would be managed by the BLM. The remainder of these lands in South Dakota would be managed by the FS.

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The public lands in Nebraska administered by the BLM would be transferred to the FS. These lands are presently administered by the BLM from their Resource Area Office in Newcastle, WY. Upon transfer, the lands would be administered by the Nebraska National Forest, headquartered in Chadron, NE.

## II. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Public involvement has been an integral part of refining the original Interchange proposal. BLM and FS representatives consulted with the Governors and their staff, Congressional delegations, local government officials, and the general public in Nebraska and South Dakota. Public meetings were held in Newcastle, WY, and Rapid City, SD. Only seven responses to the Interchange proposal originated in these states during the formal public review, June 7 to July 8.

The few who responded opposed the June 7 proposal because they were satisfied with current management and were concerned that it would be disrupted. Suggested changes included transferring lands in Corson and Perkins Counties, SD, to the FS; putting all grasslands under either the FS or the BLM; transferring all BLM lands in South Dakota to the FS; and putting all timberland under the FS and all grassland under the BLM.

The above suggestions were considered in reviewing the June 7 proposal. Because the proposal best meets the Interchange goals and because there was no strong consensus for altering it, no changes were made.

## III. PROPOSED ACTION

### A. Communities Affected

All communities that currently house a FS or BLM office would continue to house an agency office after the Interchange. No communities in South Dakota or Nebraska would be significantly impacted by Interchange actions.

No communities in South Dakota or Nebraska currently have both BLM and FS offices. Following the Interchange, the BLM would maintain Field Offices in Camp Crook and Lemmon, SD, where there are presently FS Ranger District Offices. The present FS Field Office in Pierre would become a Ranger District Office of the Nebraska National Forest. The existing BLM Belle Fourche Resource Area Office in Belle Fourche, SD, would remain. Three positions would be added to the new FS Ranger District Office in Pierre. Community impacts would be low or absent.

### B. Office and Staffing Changes

There are currently 89 FS positions in Nebraska (including the Pine Ridge Job Corps Center). There are no BLM offices or personnel in Nebraska; public lands and minerals are managed by BLM personnel stationed in Newcastle, WY. No staffing changes in Nebraska are proposed.



In South Dakota, there are currently 7 BLM and 230 FS permanent positions (including the Boxelder Job Corps Center). After Interchange there would be 15 BLM and 222 FS permanent positions in this State.

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| Community                                                    | Existing<br>Offices | <u>Proposed Changes</u> |         | <u>Net Staff Change</u> |         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------|-------------------------|---------|
|                                                              |                     | June 7                  | Revised | June 7                  | Revised |
| Camp Crook, SD                                               | FS RD               | BLM FO                  | BLM FO  | 0                       | 0       |
| Lemmon, SD                                                   | FS RD               | BLM FO                  | BLM FO  | 0                       | 0       |
| Pierre, SD                                                   | FS FO               | FS RD                   | FS RD   | + 3                     | + 3     |
| Changes of less than three positions each at other locations |                     |                         |         | - 3                     | - 3     |
| Net change:                                                  |                     |                         |         | 0                       | 0       |

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Note: FO = Field Office, FS RD = Ranger District, NC = No Change

#### C. Lands and Minerals

Currently land and minerals ownership and leasing records for South Dakota are maintained in Billings, MT, and for Nebraska, in Cheyenne, WY. These records would continue to be maintained at these locations, as would minerals leasing activity. An automated record system is currently under development. When complete, the automated system would allow changes to be made in the way minerals applications are handled.

Field minerals operations would be conducted from BLM offices in northwestern South Dakota and from FS offices surrounding South Dakota for the remainder of the State. Field minerals operations in Nebraska would be conducted from FS offices surrounding Nebraska. In all cases, the surface management agency would also supervise minerals operations except for Indian lands where BLM would continue to be responsible for minerals operations.

#### D. Public Service

In South Dakota, most areas would fall under the jurisdiction of only one agency. This would simplify the public's dealings for matters such as rights-of-way, minerals activity, and livestock grazing.

In Nebraska, FS offices in Nebraska would administer both the Federal surface and sub-surface acreage, making it more convenient for the public.

In both States, only one set of regulations and procedures would apply to Federal surface and sub-surface administration. The number of dual permits held by public land users would decrease. Consolidation of agency jurisdiction in Nebraska would increase efficiency.

## IV. ANTICIPATED COSTS AND SAVINGS

## South Dakota

## A. 5-Year Implementation Costs

|                    |           |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Personnel Costs    | \$ 45,000 |
| Space Costs        | 0         |
| Other Costs        | 0         |
| Total 5-Year Costs | \$ 45,000 |

## B. Savings the First 5-Years

|                      |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| Personnel Savings    | \$ 332,000 |
| Space Savings        | 0          |
| Other Savings        | 0          |
| Total 5-Year Savings | \$ 332,000 |

## C. Average Annual Savings After Full Implementation -- \$ 95,000

## Nebraska

An anticipated cost of \$32,000 is associated with the transfer of sub-surface responsibilities to the FS. No savings in personnel or space costs would result from jurisdictional transfer in Nebraska.



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